

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) Compressed chewing gum tablet comprising:

a chewing gum center fully or partly encapsulated by a barrier layer;

said gum center comprising a compression of gum base granules and chewing gum additives;

said gum base granules having a moderated tackiness obtained by at least one natural resin incorporated in at least a part of the gum base granules, wherein the natural resin provides an improved and sticky texture to the tablet; and

wherein said barrier layer comprises at least one of lubricants, anti-adherents, or glidants, and wherein said barrier layer is provided during the manufacturing of the chewing gum tablet.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously presented) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to claim 1, wherein the compressed chewing gum tablet comprises about 3% to 50% by weight of natural resins.

4. (Previously presented) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to claim 1, wherein the compressed chewing gum tablet comprises about 0.5% to 30% by weight of elastomers.

5. (Previously presented) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to claim 1, wherein the compressed chewing gum tablet comprises about 0.1% to 15% by weight of flavoring agents.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously presented) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to claim 1, wherein the barrier layer comprises magnesium stearate.

9. (Previously presented) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to claim 1, wherein said barrier layer comprises at least one of metallic stearates, hydrogenated vegetable oils, partially hydrogenated vegetable oils, polyethylene glycols, polyoxyethylene monostearates, animal fats, silicates, silicates dioxide, talc, magnesium stearates, calcium stearates, fumed silica, powdered hydrogenated cottonseed oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, hydrogenated soya oil and mixtures thereof.

10. (Previously presented) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to claim 1, wherein the gum center is substantially free of lubricants, anti-adherents and glidants.

11. (Previously presented) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to claim 1, wherein the gum center comprises wax.

12. (Previously presented) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to claim 1, wherein the gum center is substantially free of wax.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) Compressed chewing gum according to claim 1 2, wherein said natural resin comprises rosin esters.

15. (Currently amended) Compressed chewing gum according to claim 1, wherein said natural resin comprises at least one of glycerol esters of partially hydrogenated rosins, glycerol esters of polymerised rosins, glycerol esters of partially dimerised rosins, glycerol esters of tall oil rosins, pentaerythritol esters of partially hydrogenated rosins, methyl esters of rosins, partially hydrogenated methyl esters of rosins or pentaerythritol esters of rosins.

16. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum according to claim 1, wherein said chewing gum additives comprises sweeteners in an amount of from about 5 to about 95% by weight of the chewing gum tablet.

17. (Previously presented) Compressed chewing gum according to claim 5, wherein at least a part of the flavoring agents has been torn into the gum base previous to compression.

18. (Previously presented) Compressed chewing gum according to claim 1, wherein said chewing gum additives comprise[[s]] active ingredients.

19. (Previously presented) Compressed chewing gum according to claim 4, wherein at least a part of said active ingredients has been torn into the gum base previous to compression.

20 - 27. (Cancelled)

28. (Previously presented) Method of providing a compressed chewing gum comprising:

mixing at least one elastomer and at least one plasticizer into a homogeneous gum base;

said gum base comprising about 5% to 75% by weight of natural resin; granulating the gum base;

blending the granulated gum base with chewing gum additives;

depositing a barrier layer on at least a part of a chewing gum center formed by gum base granules and chewing gum additives; and

compressing the mixture into a tablet.

29. (Previously presented) Method of providing a compressed chewing gum according to claim 28, wherein at least a part of the gum base is premixed with flavor.

30. (Previously presented) Method of providing a compressed chewing gum according to claim 28, wherein said gum additives comprise active ingredients.

31. (Previously presented) Method of providing a compressed chewing gum according to claim 28, wherein the barrier layer comprises at least one of metallic stearates, hydrogenated vegetable oils, partially hydrogenated vegetable oils, polyethylene glycols, polyoxyethylene monostearates, animal fats, silicates, silicates dioxide, talc, magnesium stearates, calcium stearates, fumed silica, powdered hydrogenated cottonseed oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, hydrogenated soya oil and mixtures thereof.

32. (Previously presented) Chewing gum tablet according to claim 1, wherein the chewing gum tablet has a water content of less than about 2.0% by weight of the chewing gum tablet.